

(1) whether they accept the principle of communal representation in the matter of recruitment to the public service, provided the applicant possesses the required qualification; and

(2) if the answer to part (1) is in the affirmative, what are the separate communities whose claims to separate representation are recognised by the Government?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (1) The principle is being tried consistently with efficiency, qualifications and the special requirements of particular appointments. Special consideration is being shown to communities backward in education so far as the exigencies of the public service permit.

(2) The present classification of communities is:—

I. Hindu.

1. Brahmin (Malayala)
2. Brahmin (Others)
3. Nadar
4. Ezhava
5. Kammala
6. Kshatriya (Malayala)
7. Nair
8. Pulaya
9. Other depressed classes
10. Vellala
11. Other Hindus.

II. Mussalman.

III. Christian.

1. Protestant
2. Roman Catholic
3. Syrians
 - (a) Jacobite
 - (b) Reformed
 - (c) Romo-Syrian

IV. Others.

Choice of Questions for answering at the Meetings of the Council.

98. **MR. K. I. JOSEPH** (*Minachil cum Devicolam*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) the rules, if any, the Government are at present following in their choice of the questions they take up for answering at the meetings of the Legislative Council; and

(b) if there are no such rules at present, will they be pleased to prescribe certain definite rules on the subject?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (a) There are no rules on the subject. But answers are furnished immediately to questions in respect of which the necessary information is available

[Mr. T. P. Ramasubba Aiyar.]

in the Secretariat. In the case of the other interpellations, materials for replies are called for from heads of departments and other officers concerned and the answers are, and can be, furnished only when their replies are received. The member's attention is also invited to the answer to question No. 243 given at the meeting of the Council held on the 20th April 1926.

(b) It is not practicable to prescribe hard and fast rules.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil cum Devicolam*): May I know whether at the time the heads of departments are asked to furnish materials, they are also asked to do so within any fixed time?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): A time-limit is prescribed to supply the necessary materials. But it will not be possible always to furnish the information, as in some cases the members require statistics for several years.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil cum Devicolam*): May I know whether there are safeguards to see that they do not purposely avoid furnishing the materials for an answer?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): Definite instructions have been issued to the heads of departments to treat these interpellations as urgent.

*Entertainment of Ezhavas, Catholics, etc.,
in the Land Revenue Department.*

99. MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha cum Todupuzha*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) whether they recognise the principle that all classes of subjects of the State have an equal claim to the appointments in the Land Revenue Department; and

(b) if so, the reasons for not giving adequate representation to Catholic Christians, Ezhavas, Mahomedans and such other communities in this important department?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (a) Yes.

(b) Instructions have been issued to the Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner, as also to other heads of departments and offices, to give adequate representation to all communities in his department.

Representation of Catholics in the Land Revenue Department.

100. MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha cum Todupuzha*):

(1) Are the Government aware that the Catholics have great grievances because of their not having been given any representation worth the name in the Land Revenue Department even after the Revenue-Devaswom separation?

(2) Will the Government be pleased to issue stringent instructions to all the officers competent to make appointments in the above department to give due representation to the Catholics?